

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An optical glass having a refractive index (nd) of 1.57 to 1.67, an Abbe's number (vd) of 55 to 65 and a glass transition temperature (Tg) of 560°C or lower and having a haze value of 3 % or less in terms of climate resistance.
2. An optical glass having a refractive index (nd) of 1.57 to 1.67 and an Abbe's number (vd) of 55 to 65 and having a haze value of 3 % or less in terms of climate resistance, the optical glass being for use in precision press-molding.
3. An optical glass comprising B₂O₃, SiO₂, Li₂O, CaO, ZnO and La₂O₃, having a refractive index (nd) of 1.57 to 1.67, an Abbe's number (vd) of 55 to 65 and a glass transition temperature (Tg) of 560°C or lower and having a haze value of 3 % or less in terms of climate resistance.
4. An optical glass comprising, by mol%, 22 to 40 % of B₂O₃, 12 to 40 % of SiO₂, 2 to 20 % of Li₂O, 5 to 15 % of CaO, 2 to 14 % of ZnO, 0.5 to 4 % of La₂O₃, 0 to 3 % of Gd₂O₃, 0 to 3 % of Y₂O₃, the total content of La₂O₃, Gd₂O₃ and Y₂O₃ being at least 1 %, 0 to 5 % of Al₂O₃, 0 to 3 % of ZrO₂ and 0 to 5 % of BaO, the total content of the above components being more than 96 %, and having a refractive index (nd) of 1.57 to 1.67 and an Abbe's number (vd) of 55 to 65.
5. A press-molding preform, which is made of the optical glass recited in any one of claims 1 to 4.
6. An optical element made of the optical glass recited in any one of claims 1 to 4.
7. A process for producing a preform for press-molding, which comprises separating a predetermined amount

of a molten glass gob from a molten glass flow of the optical glass recited in any one of claims 1 to 4, and forming the gob into a glass preform.

5 8. A process for producing an optical element, which comprises heating, softening and press-molding the preform recited in claim 5.

10 9. A process for producing an optical element, which comprises heating, softening and press-molding a preform obtained by the process recited in claim 7.